



PATENT  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: WALTER GELON ET AL.  
Serial No.: 09/328,911  
Filed: June 9, 1999  
For: PRACTICAL ORBIT RAISING SYSTEM AND  
METHOD FOR GEOSYNCHRONOUS SATELLITES

: Date: December 5, 2000

: Group Art Unit: 3661

: Examiner: Brian J. Broadhead

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 14, 2000, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend specification as follows.

At page 2, line 24, delete "5,596,360" and substitute therefor --5,595,360--;  
at page 2, line 24, delete "\_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_ (PA-96076)" and substitute therefor --09/328,091, filed June 8, 1999--;  
at page 9, line 5, delete "\_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_ (PA-96076)" and substitute therefor -- 09/328,091, filed June 8, 1999--; and  
at page 11 lines 2-3, delete "\_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_ (PA-96076)" and substitute therefor -- 09/328,091, filed June 8, 1999--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following Claim as indicated.

1. (Amended) A method for raising a spacecraft launched into a transfer orbit about the Earth from the transfer orbit to a geosynchronous orbit, comprising the steps of:

launching a spacecraft having chemical and electric propulsion thrusters and a solar array;

firing the chemical propulsion thrusters at apogees of intermediate orbits, starting from the transfer orbit initiated by the launch vehicle, to successively raise perigees of the orbit until the spacecraft perigee substantially clears the Van Allen radiation belts, and where the semi-major axis of the intermediate orbit is substantially less than the semi-major axis of the final orbit, and where the inclination of the intermediate orbit is substantially greater than the inclination of the final orbit;